1009. (Transfered to the 14th March, 1989).

Reclamation of Wasteland

1010. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA:

SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

DR. R. K. PODDAR:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the task of reclaiming wasteland has been entrusted to the National Wastelands Development Board;

(b) if so the total hectares of land reclaimed by the Board so far; and

(c) by when the Board would complete the reclamation of all degraded land?

THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir. The principal mandate given to the Board is to bring under productive use, wastelands in the country through a massive programme of afforestation and tree planting.

(b) The year-wise progress of afforestation and tree planting since the establishment of the Board in May, 1985, is given below:—

(in million hectares)

Year	Target	Achievment
1985-86	1.45	1.51
1986-87	1.71	1.76
1987-88	1.79	1.77
1988-89 upto December, 1988	2.00	1.90

The target for 1988-89 is likely to be exceeded.

(c) Since degradation of land and its afforestation is a continuing process, it is not possible to indicate the time-limit for completing the reclamation of all degraded land in the country.

Bank loans for rural poor in Orissa

1011. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the bankwise total loan provided to rural poor in Orissa by all the nationalised banks so far;

(b) what is the percentage of recovery made so far from the said loan amount;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to convert the said loan as long term loan; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALERIO): (a) to (d) The present data reporting system of banks does not yield information in the manner asked for. However, outstanding advances of all scheduled commercial banks in respect of their rural branches in the State of Orissa as on September 1988 (latest available) were Rs. 496 crores. The percentage of recovery in respect of direct agricultural advances of All Scheduled Commercial Banks in the State of Orissa was 52.8 per cent for the year ending June 1987.

Misuse of Loans given by Banks to Chairman, Indian Express

1012. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 817 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th November, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that considerable portion of the money borrowed